

**Description of a new muricopsine species
(Gastropoda : Muricidae)
from Martinique, Lesser Antilles**

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ABSTRACT. *Favartia paulmieri* n.sp. was collected in 40-70 m and is here described for the first time. It is compared with *F. glypta* (Smith, 1938), *F. levicula* (Dall, 1889) and *F. minirosea* (Abbott, 1954).

INTRODUCTION

About six or seven years ago, Gérard Paulmier, France, who collected shells in Martinique sent me some muricids for identification. After having examined all his material and having compared it with numerous specimens, only one specimen remained without any appropriate name. Searching for additional specimens during all these years was unsuccessful. It is here described as new.

Text conventions (after Merle, 1999 and 2001).

IP: Infracuticular primary cord (primary cord on shoulder).

adis: Adapical infracuticular secondary cord (adapical to IP).

abis: Abapical infracuticular secondary cord (abapical to IP, between IP and P1).

P1 : Shoulder cord.

P2-P6: Primary cords of the convex part of the teleoconch whorl.

s2: Secondary cord of the convex part of the teleoconch whorl between P1 and P2.

s5: Secondary cord of the convex part of the teleoconch whorl between P5 and P6.

ADP: Adapical siphonal primary cord.

MP: Median siphonal primary cord.

SYSTEMATICS

Family **MURICIDAE** Rafinesque, 1815

Subfamily **MURICOPSINAE** Radwin & D'Attilio, 1971

Genus *Favartia* Jousseaume, 1880

Type species, by original designation : *Murex breviculus* Sowerby, 1834, Recent, Indo-West Pacific.

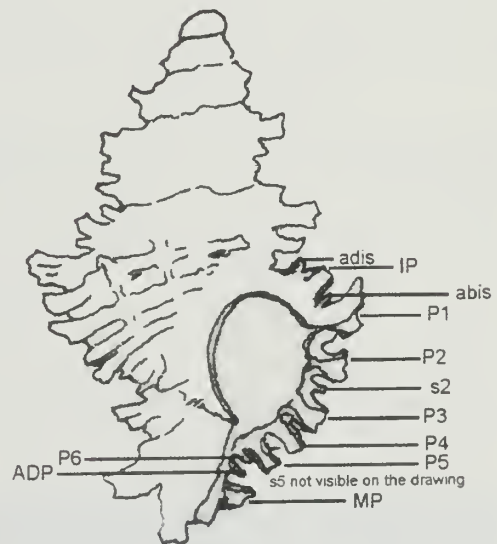


Fig. 1. Spiral sculpture of *Favartia paulmieri* n.sp.

Favartia paulmieri n.sp.

Figs 1-4

Type material. Martinique, insular shelf, 40-70 m, holotype 8.6 x 5.3 mm, MNHN.

Description. Shell of 8.6 mm in length, spinose, lightly built. Spire high, with 1 ½ protoconch whorls, and 4 ¼ broad, angulate, weakly spinose teleoconch whorls. Suture impressed. Protoconch large, whorls rounded, smooth. Terminal varix thin, weakly curved. Axial aculpture of teleoconch whorls consisting of weak, narrow varices: first to third whorl with 7 varices, last whorl with 5 varices. Spiral sculpture of high, squamous cords : first whorl with 3 visible cords (P1, P2, P3), second with IP, P1, P2, s2, P3, last whorl with adis, IP, abis, P1, P2, s2, P3, P4, P5, s5, P6, ADP, MP. Varices producing short, open, frondose spines at

intersection of spiral cords. Presence of 5 spines on varices of last whorl. Shoulder spine (P1) broadest, approximately twice the breadth of P2-P5.

Aperture small, roundly-ovate. Columellar lip flaring, smooth, weakly adherent at adapical extremity. Anal notch indistinct. Outer lip erect, smooth within. Siphonal canal short, abaperturally recurved, narrowly open, with frondose, short, open spine; ADP narrow, short, MP broad, large.

Shell white.



Fig. 2. Protoconch of *F. paulmieri* n.sp.
Scale bar: 0.5 mm

Remarks. The subfamily Muricopsinae of the western Atlantic was revised by Vokes (1994), who commented, and illustrated both Recent and fossil species. Three *Favartia* species are worth to be compared with *F. paulmieri* n.sp.

From *F. glypta* (Smith, 1938) it differs in its more fragile shell with fewer, narrower, lower, more widely spaced spiral cords, a shorter siphonal canal, and fewer varical spines. From *F. levicula* (Dall, 1889), a species with a somewhat similar shaped shell, *F. paulmieri* differs in having apparent spiral cords between the

varices of the last whorl, and chiefly, in having a paucispiral, globose protoconch compared to the conical protoconch of *F. levicula*, consisting of 3.5 whorls. From *F. minirosea* (Abbott, 1954) (Fig. 5), *F. paulmieri* n.sp. differs in its more angulate, larger shell relative to the number of teleoconch whorls, in its higher, and less numerous axial varices with longer spines, and in the quasi-absence of spiral threads, *F. minirosea* having numerous spiral threads covering the whole shell.

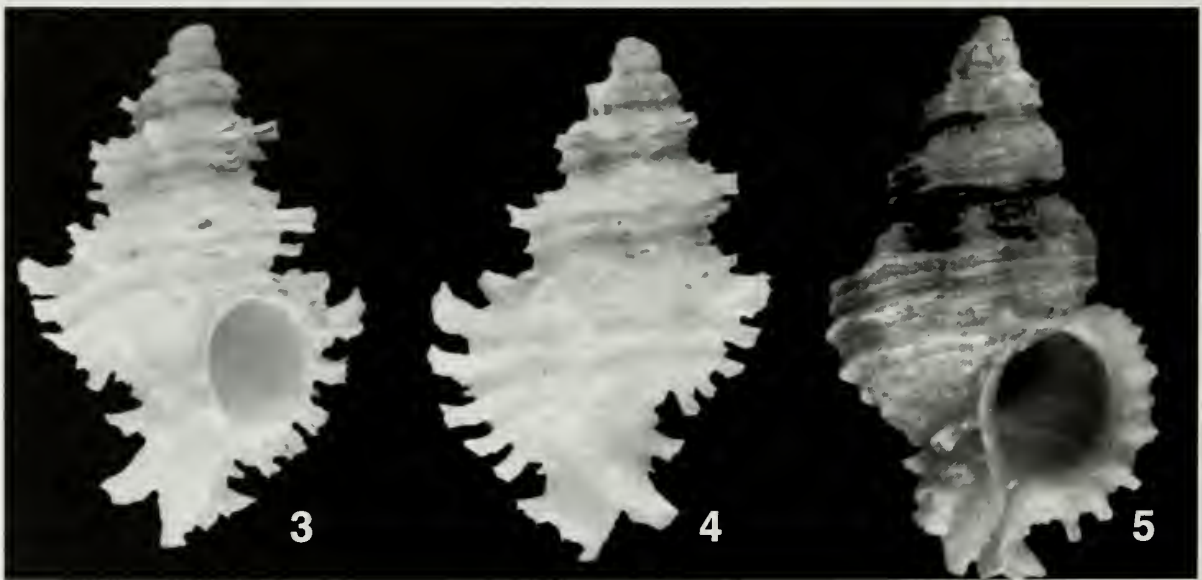
Etymology. Named after Gérard Paulmier (Monteaux, France), who provided the holotype.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Figures 3-4. *Favartia paulmieri* n.sp. Martinique, insular shelf, 40-70 m, 8.6 mm, holotype MNHN; 5. *F. minirosea* (Abbott, 1954). Isla de Utila, Islas de La Bahía, Honduras, coll. R. Houart, 7.8 mm.